THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d). Some references have been received by the Govt. from CBI regarding the transportation contract and purchase of air conditioners, which are still under consideration.

Sale of Maruti Cars

3401. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sales of Maruti Cars 800 cc and Omni Vans have dropped considerably in the recent past;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of cars and vans sold in July and August 1991 and how do the sales compare which were made in October and November 1991 month-wise;

(d) the steps taken to boost the sales of Maruti Vehicles; and

(e) whether the export figures are also coming down steadily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons for decline in demand & sale are as follows:-

i) The devaluation of rupee leading to higher cost of inputs and credit squeeze in the money market resulting in a substantial increase in loan interest rates.

ii) Steep increase in the price of Maruti vehicles mainly on account of increase in excise-duty.

(c) The number of Maruti-800 cc cars and Omnis sold from July to November, 91 is given below:-

Month	*Maruti - 800*	*OMNI*
July, 91	5179	2487
August, 91	4037	2244
Sept., 91	4346	2426
Oct., 91	4785	1562
Nov., 91	3324	1257

(d) The steps taken to promote the sales of Maruti vehicles are as under:-

i) Dealer Incentive Scheme were introduced for sale of Omnis October and November, 1991.

ii) A special offer has been introduced for sale of 5000 Om is at reduced prices for Dec., 91.

iii) An extensive 'field sales' programme has been launched through the dealers' sales personnel which is further supplemented by local advertising campaigns by the dealers.

iv) A comprehensive Omni advertisement campaign is currently under preparation and is scheduled to be

launched by mid-January, 1992.

(e) No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Processing of Fruits and Vegetables

3402. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether fruits and vegetables of the value of Rupees 30 billion goes waste in India, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the percentage of fruit and vegetables that are processed; and

(c) the efforts being made by Government to increase the capacity and modernise the units of food processing industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) While no authentic information is available, it is estimated that fruits & vegetables valued at Rs. 3,000/- crores are wasted every year due to inadequate post harvest handling as well as absence of linkage with the processors and fresh fruits & vegetable markets.

(b) It is estimated that about 1% of the fruits and vegetables are processed.

(c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have formulated various plan schemes to extend financial assistance to the State Government undertakings, public sector undertakings and cooperatives etc. for increasing the present processing capacity, setting up of food processing industries and for modernisation of these industries. This assistance is given on the proposals received through the State Governments.

[*English*]

Diversion of Stock of FPS to Open Market

3403. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the kerosene oil dealers and Fair Price Shop owners in Delhi are diverting the stocks in the blackmarket as has been established with the catching of a wheat loaded truck in Moti Nagar area and a tanker of kerosene oil in Nizamuddin area recently;

(b) if so, the reasons for not keeping a strict eye on these dealers by the Food and Supplies Department; of Delhi Administration;

(c) the steps taken to tone up the working and functioning of the Food and Supplies Department;

(d) the number of premises of hoarders of kerosene and ration shops raided for diversion of these stuff and the action taken against them, with details thereof; and

(e) the number of licences cancelled suspended by Delhi Administration during the last twelve months with reasons thereof?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Some cases of diversion of specified food articles and kerosene oil have been detected by Delhi Administration. The Delhi Administration regularly undertakes inspection of fair price shops and kerosene oil depots to curb diversion of PDS items into the open market. Surprise checks